HOUSE RESOLUTION 12

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to congratulate James Lester Strode of the 2016 World Champion Chicago Cubs.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pride in specially recognizing and paying tribute to those coaches who, through their expertise and extraordinary success, have distinguished themselves and their teams in athletic competition; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable coach is James Lester Strode, a native of McMinnville, whose talents as a bullpen coach helped the Chicago Cubs bring a World Series championship home to Wrigley Field for the first time since 1908; and

WHEREAS, Lester Strode attended Cumberland College in Lebanon, and Kentucky State University, where he twice led the NAIA in strikeouts and was drafted as a pitcher by the Kansas City Royals in the fourth round of the 1980 amateur draft; he played professional baseball in the minor leagues from 1980 to 1988; and

WHEREAS, beginning his coaching career in the Chicago Cubs farm system after his playing career ended, Mr. Strode was the pitching coach for the Wytheville Cubs in 1989, the Peoria Chiefs from 1990 to 1991, the Winston-Salem Spirits in 1992, and the Daytona Cubs in 1993; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, he was named minor league pitching coordinator for the Chicago Cubs and served in that capacity until the end of the 2006 season, when he was named to his current position as the Cubs bullpen coach; and

WHEREAS, currently the longest tenured Cubs coach, having worked in the Cubs organization for twenty-eight years including ten in the Major Leagues, Lester Strode has served under managers Lou Piniella, Mike Quade, Dale Sveum, Rick Renteria, and Joe Maddon; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Strode was chosen as a member of the Warren County Sports Hall of Fame in December 2006; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate that the members of this General Assembly specially recognize and commend this esteemed gentleman on his extraordinary success; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate James Lester Strode on his excellent coaching contributions to the 2016 World Champion Chicago Cubs and wish him much continued success in all his endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.